

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 2-6, 8 and 10-12 as follows:

1. (Original) A broadcasting control system in an ATM ring network in which a control cell containing control information is transmitted by ATM (Asynchronous Transfer Mode) between a plurality of nodes connected into a ring shape, each of the nodes comprising: receiving means for receiving a control cell from an upstream node; and transmitting means for writing response information of the self node for the control information contained in the received control cell in an area corresponding to the self node in the control cell and transmitting the control cell to a downstream node.

AI 2. (Currently Amended) A broadcasting control system according to claim 1 in an ATM ring network in which a control cell containing control information is transmitted by ATM (Asynchronous Transfer Mode) between a plurality of nodes connected into a ring shape, each of the nodes comprising: receiving means for receiving a control cell from an upstream node; and transmitting means for writing response information of the self node for the control information contained in the received control cell in an area corresponding to the self node in the control cell and transmitting the control cell to a downstream node,

wherein the control cell contains the control information, and a plurality of pieces of response information and flag information for the respective nodes.

3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The system according to claim 2, wherein said transmitting means transmits the control cell to which the response information of the self

node responding to the control information and flag information representing response of the self node are attached.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The system according to claim 1, wherein a value of a virtual path identifier is preset for each node.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The system according to claim 1, wherein in a control information transmission source node, said transmitting means transmits the control cell containing control information to the nodes except the transmission source node by broadcasting.

A1 6. (Currently Amended) ~~A broadcasting control system according to claim 1 in an ATM ring network in which a control cell containing control information is transmitted by ATM (Asynchronous Transfer Mode) between a plurality of nodes connected into a ring shape, each of the nodes comprising: receiving means for receiving a control cell from an upstream node; and transmitting means for writing response information of the self node for the control information contained in the received control cell in an area corresponding to the self node in the control cell and transmitting the control cell to a downstream node,~~

wherein said system further comprises processing control means for outputting to said transmitting means a processing control result according to control data from said receiving means as response information, said receiving means outputs the control data contained in the received control cell to said processing control means and transfers the received control cell to said transmitting means, and said transmitting means writes the response information from said processing control means in the area corresponding to the self node in the control cell from said receiving means and transmits the control cell.

A 7. (Original) A broadcasting control system in an ATM ring network in which a control cell containing control information is transmitted by ATM (Asynchronous Transfer Mode) between a plurality of nodes connected into a ring shape, each of the nodes comprising: receiving means for receiving a control cell containing control information from an upstream node, the control cell having a first area where the control information is written before transmission of the control cell, and a plurality of second areas provided in correspondence with the respective nodes, where response information for the control information is written during control cell transmission; and transmitting means for writing, in the second area, response information of the self node for the control information in the first area, and transmitting the control cell containing the control information and the pieces of response information of the respective nodes to a downstream node.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The system according to claim 7, wherein the control cell has a plurality of third areas, provided in correspondence with the respective nodes, where flag information representing that the response information has been written in the second area is written.

9. (Original) A broadcasting control method in an ATM ring network in which a control cell containing control information is transmitted by ATM (Asynchronous Transfer Mode) between a plurality of nodes connected into a ring shape, comprising the steps of: transmitting a control cell from a control information transmission source node to the remaining nodes except the transmission source node; and in each of the nodes except the transmission source node, writing response information of the self node for the control information contained in the received control cell in an area corresponding to the self node in the control cell and repeatedly transmitting the control cell to a downstream node.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 9, wherein the control cell contains the control information, and a plurality of pieces of response information and flag information for the respective nodes.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 10, wherein the transmitting step comprises the step of attaching the response information of the self node responding to the control information and flag information representing response of the self node to the control cell and transmitting the control cell.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 9, wherein a value of a virtual path identifier is preset for each node.
